

## Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 SSO-00 PM-03 SP-02

L-02 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 INRE-00

IO-03 DRC-01 /058 W

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O 180824Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5998

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SEOUL 6207

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS JA

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PARK

1. FOLLOWING PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS THIS MORNING (SEPTEMBER 18) I MET PRIVATELY WITH PRESIDENT PARK FOR ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES. WHILE PART OF THE CONVERSATION DEALT WITH GENERALITIES AND PLEASANTRIES, A FEW IMPORTANT POINTS EMERGED.

2. AFTER I HAD OPENED CONVERSATION BY REITERATING BOTH PRESIDENT FORD'S MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE ON ASSASSINATION OF MRS. PARK AND ASSURANCES OF CONTINUITY OF AMERICAN POLICY AND AMERICAN COMMITMENTS TO KOREA, INCLUDING MAINTENANCE OF US FORCES HERE, PRESIDENT PARK EXPRESSED WARM GREETINGS TO PRESIDENT FORD AND HIS DEEP APPRECIATION FOR REAFFIRMATION OF US COMMITMENTS AND POLICY TO KOREA. HE SAID THAT, WHILE HE RECOGNIZED THERE WAS CONGRESSIONAL AND PRESS CRITICISM OF KOREA, HIS BASIC CONCERN IS WITH THE VIEWS OF THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY KISSINGER AND HE HAD BEEN REASSURED BY THE MESSAGE SENT TO HIM. HE VIEWS US-ROK RELATIONS AS ON VERY GOOD BASIS AT THE

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PRESENT TIME WITH NO REPEAT NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

IT IS HIS HOPE AND DESIRE TO MAINTAIN THIS CLOSE  
RELATIONSHIP.

3. I THEN TURNED TO CURRENT ROK-GOJ DISPUTE, URGING  
FINAL STEPS TOWARDS AMICABLE SETTLEMENT BE TAKEN  
TODAY IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. PRESIDENT PARK WAS CONFI-  
DENT CURRENT DISPUTE COULD BE SETTLED QUICKLY AND  
WAS WARMLY APPRECIATIVE OF US EFFORTS WITH JAPAN  
IN BRINGING ABOUT BASIS FOR SETTLEMENT. HE RECOGNIZED  
US HAD PLAYED MAJOR ROLE IN PERSUADING JAPAN TO  
COMPROMISE ON ITS ORIGINAL POSITION. (DURING  
CREDENTIALS CEREMONY, HE EXPRESSED PERSONAL APPRECI-  
ATION TO DCM FOR HIS EFFORTS.)

4. PRESIDENT PARK STRESSED THAT HIS FUNDAMENTAL  
CONCERN WAS NOT WITH THE PARTICULAR LANGUAGE OF THE  
JAPANESE STATEMENTS BUT JAPANESE SINCERITY AND  
CAPABILITY FOR EXERCISING GREATER CONTROL OVER  
THE CHOSEN SOREN AND OTHER SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS. HE  
EXPRESSED DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THE LEFTWARD TREND IN  
JAPAN OVER THE PAST TWO OR THREE YEARS, WHICH HE  
DESCRIBED IN SOME DETAIL, AND THE POTENTIAL DANGER  
TO ROK SHOULD THE LEFT TAKE OVER THE JAPANESE GOVERN-  
MENT AND TURN TO A NEUTRALIST OR A PRO-COMMUNIST  
POLICY. HE FELT THAT GOJ NEEDED STRONGER WILL TO  
CONTROL RADICAL ELEMENTS WITHIN JAPAN.

5. I TOLD PRESIDENT PARK THAT SUCH A SHIFT IN  
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WOULD EQUALLY CONCERN US AND  
IT THEREFORE IN US-ROK MUTUAL INTEREST TO STRENGTHEN  
THE POSITION OF CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS IN JAPAN WHO  
HAVE BEEN FRIENDLY TO BOTH OF US. I OFFERED TO  
DESCRIBE AT GREATER LENGTH OUR POLICY TOWARD JAPAN  
AND PRESIDENT PARK INVITED ME TO COME IN FOR A  
PRIVATE CHAT WITH HIM FOLLOWING SCM MEETING IN  
HONOLULU NEXT WEEK.  
SNEIDER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS  
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**Draft Date:** 18 SEP 1974  
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**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
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**Subject:** MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PARK  
**TAGS:** PFOR, KS, JA, (PARK CHUNG HEE), (SNEIDER, RICHARD L)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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